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My next appointment at the office was with the "Do It Yourself" Trade Mission. This enterprising lot of businessmen, comprising an apparel industry expeditionary force, [redacted] and numbering six presidents of companies in this field, were really fascinating on the subject of how they propose to invade the English market with clothing exports. They seemed to believe the largest field was in summer wear and sports costumes. Those present were Richard S. Bell, Cape Ann Manufacturing Company, Michael Daroff, Botany Industries, Inc., J. J. Haggar, Haggar Company, Hans J. Schwerdtfeger, Arrow Company, Elmer L. Ward, Palm Beach Company, and Jack H. Wyss, Coopers Inc.

Bob Bowie flew over from Brussels, to see me on his way home. We discussed a variety of subjects, one of which was of particular importance, namely, the probability of the Defense Department dropping its development of Skybolt. I sent off the following telegram about this, drafted by Ray Courtney, who, with Ted Lampson, was present at this part of my meeting with Bowie.

Lorraine and John Cooper arrived yesterday to stay with us. Delightful Carter Brown left the house the same day.

George Ball called me from Washington tonight to ask me to tell Home that Harriman, Nitze, and associates were leaving for New Delhi tomorrow on a fact-finding mission. It was suggested the British do the same thing. Home said they expected to do so and dispatch a comparable team.

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November 21, 1962 - Wednesday

The Ambassador of Iran, Mr. Ardeshir Zahedi, came to see me this morning. I liked him immensely. He is an old friend of Lewis Jones. We discussed the Sino-Soviet affair, and also the decision made yesterday by the Soviets and the Cuban Government to withdraw the IL28's from Cuba.

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Tonight, we dined with Pauline and Philip de Rothschild at 17 Rue Méchain (14th arrondissement). She was wise to retain this charming apartment, embellished by her almost unerring taste. The other guests were Yvonne and François de Rose of the Quai d'Orsay, Peggy and Georges Bernier (owners of L'Oeil), Mme. Sandra Spontini (a cousin of E's cousin Jacqueline Obendorf).

We had several hours of whirlwind conversation, such as is only possible in France, in an atmosphere of extreme gayety even when the subjects, such as the French development of an independent nuclear weapons capability, were grave. It was an amusing display of passion, wit, and good nature prevailing over stubborn contentiousness.

The Regent himself could have not offered as good a dinner. We started with Filets de Soles Dneiper (a recipe Pauline learned from Grand Duke Dimitri, featured by a sauce of cream and caviar). Simplicity was restored by a roast Gigot de Pré Salé, with a purée of chestnuts, and little onions swimming in melted butter. Then came salad with a platter of assorted cheeses. The termination was a dish of heavenly frozen chocolate.

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With this there was an accompaniment of fine wines, the red bordeaux, as is Philippe's custom, being in magnums. We had Batard Montrachet 1959, Ch. Lafite 1952, Ch. Mouton Rothschild 1936, Ch. Mouton Rothschild 1921, Ch. Yquem 1944. The 1921 was sensational.

We got back to the Crillon at 1 a.m., happy and invigorated.

December 1, 1962 - Saturday

A wonderful sunny day. Ted Achilles came to see me this morning, to discuss the Atlantic Institute. Since Chris Herter is leaving it, to head the Trade Expansion Act Organization, they need a replacement for him, as well as one for

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Government's chosen emissary for London briefings never relaxed his personal clutch on his documents, nor quite properly would he have done so even if I had improperly suggested it, until Washington had given clearance).

IV. I have no reason whatever to believe that tension or distrust exists between this Embassy and Whitehall. On the contrary, relationships seem intimate and excellent. What is unknown to journalists in both countries was the frequency of private communications, during the Cuban crisis, between the Prime Minister and President Kennedy. I remain convinced that had it been necessary ultimately for us to have used force against Cuba we would have had the support of the British Government, despite the furious opposition of most of the press.

Michael Hadow, chief spokesman of the Foreign Office, deplored to PAO yesterday Harsch-Fromm efforts to create a story to satisfy their editors at home. No American officer here has voiced to the press corps any criticism of Foreign Office or Whitehall press guidance during the early days of the crisis. The alleged British criticism of the Embassy's handling of the press seems to be based on the misinterpretation of one remark by Hadow in his weekly briefing to selected American correspondents several weeks ago. Responding to correspondents' criticism of lack of British editorial support for US on Cuba, Hadow explained FonOff job is to explain HMG policy, but it is not FonOff responsibility to undertake to defend US policy, this being the job of US Embassy. Several US correspondents have distorted this statement into evidence of a controversy.

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